

KETTERING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

HEALTH
A 25 MAR 1944
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C.R.

Annual Report by J. T. Murphy, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

75, London Road,
Kettering.

February, 1944.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my annual report for 1942. Certain items of the report have to be omitted in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health.

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council and also to my fellow officials for their support and help throughout the year.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

J. T. MURPHY.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

Vital Statistics.

LIVE BIRTHS.

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Legitimate ...	194	93	101
Illegitimate ...	9	5	4
	203	98	105

Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated resident population - 17.9

STILL BIRTHS.

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Legitimate ...	9	5	4
Illegitimate ...	1	1	-
	10	6	4

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - 46.9

DEATHS.

	Total.	Males.	Females.
	131	75	56

Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population - Crude rate - 11.6

There were no deaths from measles, whooping cough or from diarrhoea in children under two years of age.

Deaths of infants under one year of age. Males - 3, Females - 5.
Death-rate of infants (under one year of age) per 1,000 live births - 39.4

Deaths due to cancer. 23
Deaths due to heart and circulatory causes
including intracranial vascular lesions. 48

Rates per 1,000 civilian population:-

	<u>England & Wales.</u>	<u>Smaller Towns. 25,000 to 50,000 population.</u>	<u>Kettering Rural.</u>
Death-rate.	11.6	12.1	11.6
Live birth-rate.	15.8	18.4	17.9
Deaths under one year of age. (Per 1,000 live births).	49	46	39.4

SECTION B. General Provision of Health Services.

These were similar to 1941. During the year a weekly Venereal Diseases Clinic was opened at the Kettering and District General Hospital by the Northamptonshire County Council.

Under the Scabies Order, 1941, treatment for scabies and verminous conditions was offered free of cost and 105 cases were dealt with. Cases are referred for treatment by medical practitioners, health visitors and district nurses.

Diphtheria immunisation was carried out at the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics at Wilbarston and Cottingham, and in the schools in the other villages.

The total number of children who completed the full course of immunisation from 1st January to 31st December, 1942, was as follows:-

<u>Under 5 years.</u>	<u>Between 5 and 15 years.</u>	
174	119	= 293 Total.

The number of children immunised since the scheme began (January, 1941) to 31st December, 1942:-

438	1,217	= 1,655 Total.
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The percentage immunised, at the end of 1942, being:-

<u>Under 5 years.</u>	<u>Between 5 and 15 years.</u>
55%	76%

SECTION C & E. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area and Inspection of Food.

Report by S. Wallis, A.R. San. I.,
Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

Water Supply. There was no shortage of water during the year.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal. No new works of sewerage have been carried out. The village septic tanks were cleaned out. A sale of crops from Broughton Sewage Disposal Works realised £33. 8s. 7d.

Scavenging. Hard refuse was collected in 12 villages, and night soil in 5 villages. 31 tons of paper, realising £216. 10s. 0. was sold for salvage, about 10 tons of tins, and 2 tons of bones.

Sanitary Inspection.

(a) <u>Sanitary defects remedied.</u>	Drains cleared.....	18
	Accumulations removed.....	6
	Wells and pumps repaired..	9
	Roofs repaired.....	21
	Animals improperly kept...	3
	Drains relaid.....	11
	Miscellaneous defects.....	35

(b) Factories and Workshops. Two cases of defective sanitary accommodation and three cases of insufficient cleanliness were remedied. No formal notices were served.

(c) Moveable Dwellings. Eleven licenses were granted during the year for the use of moveable dwellings. 9 are stationed at Weldon, 1 at Stanion and 1 at Cottingham. Licenses are granted for a period of twelve months.

(d) Milk Supply. 72 samples of milk were submitted to the County Council for examination by the methylene blue test. 45 proved good, 10 moderate and 17 bad.

(e) Meat and Other Foods. No slaughtering of animals to be sold for human food was carried out in the district during the year, as all such animals are now killed in the centralised abattoirs of the Ministry of Food. Private slaughtering of cottagers' pigs continues, and there is one knacker's yard, in an isolated position, in use in the district.

(f) Food preparing premises. There are 21 bakehouses, 2 fried fish shops, and 40 butchers' premises in use in the area. Five cases of insufficient cleanliness were dealt with.

SECTION F.

Infectious Diseases.

The infectious diseases notified were as follows:-

Measles.....	2
Whooping Cough.....	8
Scarlet Fever.....	24
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.....	1
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	1
Pneumonia.....	7

Scarlet Fever. Twenty-one cases were removed to hospital. There were no deaths.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever. This case was removed to hospital and recovered.

Puerperal Pyrexia. The patient was nursed at home.

Pneumonia. All the cases were nursed at home. There were five deaths from all forms of pneumonia.

Tuberculosis.

The following cases were notified during the year:-

Pulmonary Tuberculosis. 7 Males, 1 Female.
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis. 1 Female.

Deaths during the year:-

Pulmonary Tuberculosis. 2 Males, 1 Female.

The following figures show the number of cases of tuberculosis on the register at the end of 1942:-

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	35	23	58
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.	6	15	21

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EVACUATION.

The following table shows the numbers of evacuated persons billeted in the district under the Government Evacuation Scheme:

	<u>Unaccompanied children.</u>	<u>Mothers and children.</u>	<u>Other Adults.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
January, 1942.	302	111	52	465
December, 1942.	345	36	25	406

During the year 323 unaccompanied school children and 27 other classes arrived in the district to be officially billeted.

The number of evacuees received and billeted since the outbreak of the war is 2,516

37 cases of scabies occurred amongst evacuated persons, and where satisfactory treatment in the billet was not possible, removal to the County Council Institutions at Kettering or Oundle was arranged. 41 difficult cases of enuresis and behaviour abnormalities were reported during the year, and 25 were removed to Hostels established by the County Council.